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NIC #04977-84

29 August 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Herb Meyer  
FROM: Dave Gries *Dave*  
SUBJECT: DCI-Secretary of the Navy Luncheon

1. Lehman may talk about his recent trip to China, the first ever by a Navy Secretary.

-- Reciprocal ship visits were first raised during the Weinberger visit. Lehman pursued the US side of it, and obtained agreement in principle for a US destroyer to visit a Chinese port, probably in 1985. Revealingly, the Chinese agreed only after receiving assurances that they could inspect the vessel and all its weapons "close up".

-- Lehman also invited his counterpart, Liu Huaqing, and his staff to travel by helicopter or other aircraft to a US carrier battle group off the Chinese coast for an inspection tour. Liu initially accepted, then, presumably on

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checking further, backed off somewhat. Such a visit obviously would interest the Soviets and the Third World, and presumably the Chinese leadership wants to move cautiously, if at all.

- A joint technical group is to be set up to review Chinese requests for transfer of US naval technology.
- Lehman also invited Liu to visit the US in 1985, and Liu accepted. Liu in turn invited Admiral Watkins and General Kelly (Navy and Marine Corps) to visit China, and Lehman accepted on their behalf.

2. Lehman's party inspected a Han class SSN at dockside, presumably in response to the visit to a US nuclear attack submarine of the Chinese Defense Minister last winter. The Lehman party also inspected and sat in the cockpit of a Chinese F-8 (a redesigned MIG-21), probably in response to the Chinese Defense Minister's inspection of an F-16.

  
Dave Gries

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